

Internship Program Admissions

Date Program Tables are updated: 06/1/2022

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:

The James J Peters (Bronx) VA currently sponsors eight internship positions each year – six in our general track, two in our neuropsychology track. Each internship application is evaluated to determine whether the applicant would be a good fit for the population, training, and experiences provided at our site. Applications are reviewed based on several criteria including the volume and quality of previous clinical experiences, the ability to formulate clinical interventions, awareness, experience, and self-reflection in the domain of diversity, and level of interest in our program. We also consider academic performance, including scholarly and research achievements, general writing ability and letters of recommendation. Based on these ratings, we invite a select group of applicants for interviews at our site in December and January. Consistent with recommendations, and to minimize financial hardship, our interviews will occur remotely for the 2023-24 incoming class. During the interview process, we try to get a sense of each applicant's personality, interests, clinical style, and response to supervision. A strong match would generally include a candidate who demonstrates an openness to growth and learning, and who has an interest in working in an academic medical setting with a culturally diverse, inner-city, veteran population presenting with complex psychological, medical, and social problems. Within the General Track, the emphasis is on assessment, formulation, and delivery of treatment in a broad range of diagnostic domains with opportunities for specialized training in PTSD, DBT, and Couples (EFT) Therapy. Within the Neuropsychology track, the emphasis is on developing expertise in Neuropsychological Assessment across various populations while also building on solid psychotherapy skills. For details regarding the application process and required materials, see instructions in the next section.

We expect all applicants to have had previous practicum or externship training in psychotherapy and psychodiagnostic assessment (including basic proficiency in the administration and interpretation of both cognitive tests and personality measures). Supervisors operate from various theoretical orientations, but within the Substance Abuse and PTSD rotations, an emphasis is placed on Cognitive-Behavioral Theories so a basic comfort with this style of formulation is beneficial. As a VA hospital that offers multiple EBPs and hopes to prepare interns for possible careers within the VA system some experience of or willingness to learn EBPs is important.

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	<input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	Amount:
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	<input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	Amount:

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

- Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for our program:
- United States citizenship
- Doctoral student in good standing at an APA-approved Clinical or Counseling doctoral psychology program
- Approved for internship by doctoral program Director of Clinical Training
- Completion of all coursework

Please Note: A CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION STATUS, CERTIFICATION OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP, and DRUG SCREENING are required to become a VA intern. The Federal Government requires that male applicants to VA positions who were born after 12/31/59 must sign a Pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they are employed. All interns will have to complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning the internship. VA will not consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Interns are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff they are subject to random selection as are other staff. Interns are also subject to a new employee physical, fingerprinting, and background checks. Match result and selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens. No intern has ever been refused employment as a result of the physical exam or the background check, but several have had difficulty, in all cases either because of past legal problems or significant medical problems they chose not to reveal during the application process.

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$30,387	
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	N/A	
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If access to medical insurance is provided:		
Trainee contribution to cost required?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of family member(s) available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of legally married partner available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Coverage of domestic partner available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	104 hours (13 days)	
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	104 hours (13 days)	
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Other Benefits (please describe):

Additional Leave: 11 Federal Holidays and Professional Development Days

Benefits: Dental and vision insurance are available in addition to medical coverage with trainee contribution. Interns are also eligible for transit benefits and life insurance. Interns may not participate in VA retirement programs. However, if interns are later employed by VA or another federal agency, they receive service credit for the internship year.

*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table.

Initial Post-Internship Positions*(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)*

	2018-2021	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	24	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	0	
	PD	EP
Community mental health center	0	0
Federally qualified health center	0	0
Independent primary care facility/clinic	1	0
University counseling center	1	0
Veterans Affairs medical center	7	0
Military health center	0	0
Academic health center	7	0
Other medical center or hospital	0	2
Psychiatric hospital	1	0
Academic university/department	0	0
Community college or other teaching setting	0	0
Independent research institution	0	0
Correctional facility	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	4	1
Not currently employed	0	0
Changed to another field	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	0	0

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.